



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006
MA'E MA'E ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sesnita Moepono called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sesnita Moepono, Loy Kuo, Donald Nitta, Claude Uehara, Leonard Kam, Ed Thompson, Arvid Youngquist, Bob Stubbs, Dale White, Max Fowler, Jay Aguilar

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

GUESTS: Henry Oliva (Governor Linda Lingle's representative, Legislative Administration Director of the Department of Human Services); Sue Berg Senator (Senator Chun Oakland Staff); Representative Corinne Ching, Debbie Kim Morikawa (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative, Director, Department of Community Services); Sgt. Costa (Honolulu Police Department, Kalihi Station); Capt. Leon Laba (Honolulu Fire Department, Kuakini Station); Gerald Powers (Convalescent Center); Roy Benham, Lauren Oakland, Francis Nishimura, Henry Pang, Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

FILLING OF VACANCIES FOR SUBDISTRICTS 2 – Deferred.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 9, 2006 REGULAR MEETING:

Board member Youngquist moved and Board member White seconded that the motion to approve regular Board meeting minutes of January 9, 2006 with the following corrections:

Page 1 delete last two lines under Questions, answers, and comments

Page 3 item 1 under Questions, answers, and comments, delete "Lee had"

Page 4 item 3 under Mayor's Report, "Woo" should be changed to "Morikawa"

Page 4 item 6 under Questions, answers, and comments, "Konia Park" should read "Kunewai Park"

Page 5 item 1 under Questions answers and comments, delete "Beretania corner"

Page 6 under questions answers, and comments the word "members" should be added after the word "Board".

Page 7 "It was moved and seconded" should read "Younquist moved and Stubbs seconded..."



The motion carried unanimously.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS & GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' FORUM:

The agenda was taken out of order at this time.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)- Capt. Laba (Kuakini Station) distributed the written report and highlighted the following:

1. Statistics for the month of December: 10 structure, 2 brush, 6 rubbish and 2 vehicle fire. There were 79 medical emergencies, 0 search and rescues and 4 miscellaneous service calls.
2. Community Relations

Fire Safety Tip: Every home should have a WORKING smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level. Since cooking vapors and steam can set off a smoke detector, the detector should be located away from the kitchen or bathroom. Wall-mounted detectors should be positioned 4 to 12 inches below the ceiling and away from air vents.

3. The following results are from a survey conducted of 80,000 elementary school students in which almost 48,000 responded:

Eighty-seven percent (87%) of the homes had smoke detectors and 2 % were not certain whether one existed. Of the 87%, 67% of the families tested their detector that month and only 71% of the smoke detectors were operational.

This survey enforced our belief that, "Every home should have a WORKING smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level."

The Chair thanked Captain Laba for his report.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD)-Sgt. Costa distributed the monthly statistics and highlighted the following:

0 homicides, 2 sex offense, 0 robbery, 18 burglary, 36 theft, 18 UEMV's, 17 motor vehicle thefts, 8 assaults, 91 MVC, 18 property damage, 1 drug/narcotics, 5 family offenses, 81 arguments, 5 DUI.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Board member Youngquist inquired about an email that was being circulated regarding an aggressive ticketing campaign by HPD. Sgt. Costa informed the Board that the email was addressed to the media and there was no such campaign by HPD. He added that if HPD initiated such a campaign that the

public would be notified through public service announcements such as the "Click it or ticket" program.

2. Vice Chair Kuo inquired about an arrest regarding a burglar on a moped. Sgt. Costa said he was not aware of the incident. Chair Moepono informed him that she saw it on the TV News where it was titled, "The Alewa Heights Burglar Caught". A neighbor stopped the burglar by sticking a pipe in the spokes of the moped.
3. Member Youngquist inquired about a public arrest made during the Martin Luther King parade where a person was allegedly carried by four officers for disorderly conduct. Sgt. Costa did not hear of the incident.
4. Member Thompson reported a suspicious van with a police scanner driving around the Alewa Heights area. Member Thompson suspects that the van is scoping out houses for possible burglaries. Sgt. Costa advised Member Thompson to call 911 and report any suspicious activity.
5. An area resident reported a couple living in the bathroom at Kunewai Park. Sgt. Costa advised them to call HPD immediately, so they can take action.

Councilmember Tam's representative-Claude Uehara distributed Councilmember Tam's report and was available for questions:

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to Member Stubb's question regarding the status of the cross walk at St. Theresa's, Uehara would follow up with DTS.
2. Member Stubbs would like an update on projects in the district. Uehara mentioned that he made the report in December and would bring a list for Member Stubbs.
3. Member Aguilar inquired how projects in the district are prioritized. Mayor's representative Morikawa would check on how the administration prioritizes projects.
4. Member Stubbs asked if the St. Theresa crosswalk project has been funded. Member Stubbs would like to know the process by which the City administration and/or its departments prioritizes projects for a particular district or neighborhood especially with regards to the cross walk at Saint Theresa's School on 712 North School Street. Member Aguilar inquired about a design and lighting for the area around St. Theresa.
5. Uehara suggested putting the district CIP's for the March agenda in order to meet the deadline to submit CIP's

The Chair thanked Uehara for his report.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative-Debbie Kim Morikawa Director, Department of Community Services, distributed the Mayor's newsletter and reported the following:

1. Road repairs at 2050 Liliha St. have left the road extremely uneven (resembling a speed bump). This unevenness is hazardous to unwitting motorists.
2. Complaint about recurrent potholes on Judd St. between Kunawai & Lolena (where Lanakila transitions to Judd St.). Resurfacing done 2-3 years ago, however, an ongoing drainage issue causes water seepage resulting in recurring potholes. Potholes were recently patched and will be scheduled for patching if they recur. Regarding the seepage at Mahalo and Judd St., it originates from private property and there are no plans at present to address this condition.
3. DTS will conduct an investigation into the stated concerns of the Board regarding dedicated left turn lanes at Kuakini and Liliha intersection. DTS will notify the Mayor's representative of the status of their investigation by 3/9/06.
4. Community members are complaining about the condition of the Kuakini Extension property. There are abandoned vehicles with broken windows on Keola Drive and the grass is about 4 - 5 feet high. She was just notified that there may be a City Department that may be able to resolve the problem. This request has been deferred to Parks and Recreation late in the inquiry process. She is still awaiting a response. (Detailed report follows.)

The Chair thanked the Mayor's representative Morikawa for her report.

The agenda was resumed at this time.

Towing of Vehicles on Lolena and Iholena Streets:

An area resident from 915 Lolena street brought his concern to the board regarding the towing of cars on the grass/sidewalk at the Alewa Park. He explained that the towing of cars seemed like a 'raid' by HPD prompted by concerns from the Neighborhood Board. The area resident further explained that the cars are parked in the area twice a month, because they conduct prayer meetings, and they do not wish to circumvent any City ordinances or laws with regards to unimproved sidewalks. (Parking on unimproved sidewalks is legal as long as there is enough room for a pedestrian to safely walk.) The area resident further explained that the cars are parked in the area, because there is no other place for them to park and requested that if the cars are going to be towed, to please notify him, so he can move the cars. He reported that the towed cars resulted in \$900 worth of fines, and Member Youngquist raised concerns saying it seemed a bit much and is interested in the mitigation of this issue. He did reiterate that he did not mean to violate any laws and would like to work with the Board and HPD to find a solution to the issue. Mayor's representative Morikawa offered to inquire if cars can use the park across the street during the meetings, which are held twice a month. Chair Moepono clarified that the Board had no intent to target the residence or call for a raid by HPD. Chair Moepono explained that she and another Board Member had received

complaints of parked cars on the sidewalk of Alewa Park and the complaints were concerned that the cars may be connected to illegal activities in the Park late at night. Members of the prayer meeting testified on behalf of the property owner of 915 Lolena. Chair Moepono reiterated that the Board did not target the prayer group but was conveying other neighborhood complaints and would be willing to work with the City and HPD to find a solution to this issue.

Sgt. Costa stated that the Alewa Park sidewalk is considered unimproved walkways and if cars are parked on it where pedestrian traffic cannot walk, then cars are towed away. Member Smith suggested there may be a signage problem. Sgt. Costa also stated that when the Board conveyed the parking complaints to them at the last Board Meeting, the officer on duty went to the Park and had them tagged and towed. HPD said that they try to look up the illegally parked cars registration to find an address near by so they can inform the car owner that they are illegally parked and move their car, but none of the addresses were from the neighborhood. Chair Moepono asked Sgt Costa, Morikawa, Uehara and the resident to get together to resolve the issue.

Chair Moepono raised the issue of Kunewai Street being an unimproved sidewalk as well and made the suggestion that perhaps the DPR would allow people to park at the Kunewai Park during the meetings. Area resident, Roy Benham inquired if HPD could notify the the group prior to taking action. Again, HPD's response was that they were acting based on complaints.

Willa Donnelly raised concerns regarding unimproved sidewalks on Maukanani and Kamalii roads. Cars are parked in the area and she asked if they could be towed rather than just cited. HPD suggested calling 911 to report the problem. Usually cars are not towed because they can move an inch and HPD, in that situation, is unable to tow the vehicle. Chair Moepono asked HPD to treat the issue of parking on unimproved sidewalks with equity, referring to the prayer group cars being towed rather than cited for parking on unimproved sidewalks.

The Board raised the issue of having subdistrict representatives send letters to the Natsonoya Tea House to address parking issues.

Stubbs moved and Aguilar seconded to send a letter to Natsonoya Tea House to address the parking issue. The motion carried 10-0-1. (Ayes: Moepono, Stubbs, Aguilar, Thompson, Nitta, Kuo, Kam, Fowler, White, Uehara. Abstain: Younquist)

Nitta moved and Stubbs seconded that the Board write a resolution to notify Kamehameha Schools to let the neighbors know when parking in the neighborhood will be in use. The motion carried 10-0-1. (Ayes: Moepono, Stubbs, Aguilar, Thompson, Nitta, Kuo, Kam, Fowler, White, Uehara. Abstain: Younquist)

Ed Thompson left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Neighborhood Residents brought concerns over 1861 Kualono Street. The house is abandoned and rats have been seen coming out of the home. They are also concerned with the overgrowth and the danger the house poses to the neighborhood.

Mayor's representative Debbie Morikawa would check to see if the City can do anything with regards to the complaints regarding rodent infestation on 1861 Kualono Street. Morikawa did explain that this issue would probably fall under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Health (DOH) Vector Control.

Henry Oliva offered to contact the State Department of Health.

DLNR Clean Up of Abandoned Vehicles and Tall Grass on Keola Drive:

Henry Oliva passed distributed letters from the Governor's Office and various State Agencies with regards to the clean up and conveyance of Keola Drive and the Kuakini extension project. Mayor's Representative Debbie Morikawa has been investigating whose jurisdiction Keola Drive (in the area where the Kuakini Extension Project is being proposed) falls under, so the area can be cleaned up. There is tall grass as well as abandoned vehicles, and the area has not been maintained and is neglected. The issue has been going back and forth between the State and the City. The State claims that the property has been conveyed to the City, but the City does not have the title. The Board is requesting that the proper departments, whether City or State, be identified, so something can be done about the area. (Per Debbie, DPP has been consulted and they believe that it would fall under DFM or DPR.)

Also with regards to the Kuakini Extension project, the Board agreed to send a letter to the Mayor regarding the land conveyance from the State to the City in order to expedite the Kuakini Extension project as the Board is concerned that the funds for the project may lapse. Youngquist

Youngquist moved and Aguilar seconded to write a letter to the Mayor urging the clean up of the Keola Drive and to expedite the completion of the Kuakini Extension Project.

The motion carried unanimously.

Governor Linda Lingle's representative- Henry Oliva distributed the Governor's report and was available for questions.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland's representative- Sue Berg distributed a packet of materials and was available for questions.

Representative Corinne Ching- Representative Corinne Ching distributed her report at the beginning of the meeting and left.

Representative Dennis Arakaki (District 30) – Rep. Arakaki's representative submitted a report and the status of several bills.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Convalescent Center of Honolulu- No report.

Kuakini Medical Center- No report.

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center-No report.

Maluhia/Leahi Hospital- No report.

St. Francis Medical Center- No report.

OLD BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair's Report:

Max Fowler left the meeting at 9 p.m.

Board of Water Supply (BWS)- The Chair read the following report:

1. The Board of Water Supply (BWS) has announced the 2006 Water Conservation Week Poster Contest for all Oahu students in kindergarten through 6th grade. Deadline for poster entries is Thursday, March 9th. This year's theme is: "Each and Every Day I Save Water My Way."
2. Winners will receive a savings bond along with their inclusion in the 2007 Water Conservation Calendar. The winning poster entries will also be displayed at City Hall to commemorate Water Conservation Week. Complete details can be found on our website: www.boardofwatersupply.com or by calling our Communications Office at 748-5041.
3. March 5-11 is Detect-A-Leak Week on the island of Oahu. BWS is asking everyone to check for leaks at home and work. Promotional flyers and Leak detection dye tablets for toilets will be available at the Board of Water Supply on Beretania Street, various hardware stores, and all satellite city halls. Also, fill out and mail in entry forms on the flyer to qualify for a free water audit.
4. BWS will be participating in the 12th Annual BIA Home Building & Remodeling Show 2006 at the Blaisdell Exhibition Hall, February 2-5. Come visit our booth to get more information on what you can do to make your home building or remodeling job a water-wise investment!
5. Water Savings Tip- Not turning off the water as you brush your teeth can use as much as four gallons of water each time!

Treasurer's Report- Treasurer Dale White reported that there was a balance of \$ 1,437.32 in the Operating account, \$1,359.00 remaining in the Publicity budget and \$94.38 in the Refreshments budget.

Aguilar moved and White seconded to create a resolution to support warranted improvements for the bathroom at Kunewai Park.

The motion carried unanimously.

Other Committee Reports- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next scheduled Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 13, 2006, at the Ma'ema'e Elementary School at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT- Hearing no objections, Chair Moepono adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Sesnita Moepono